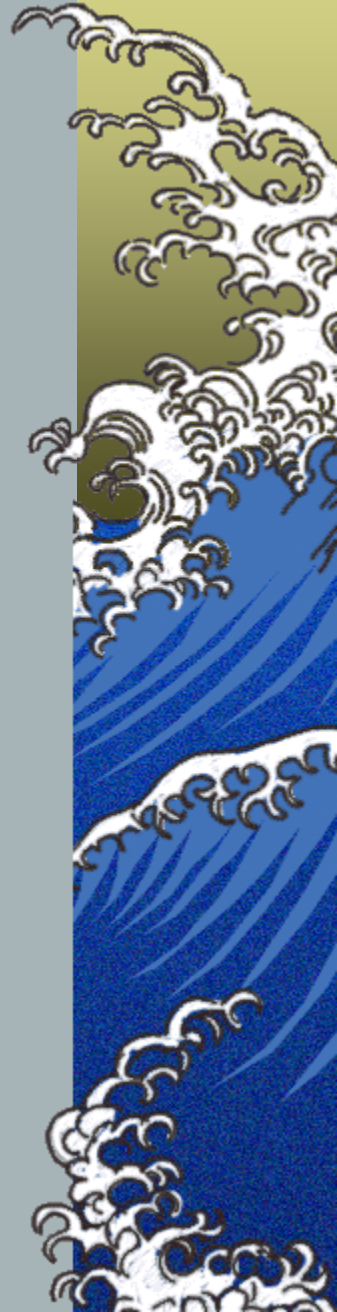


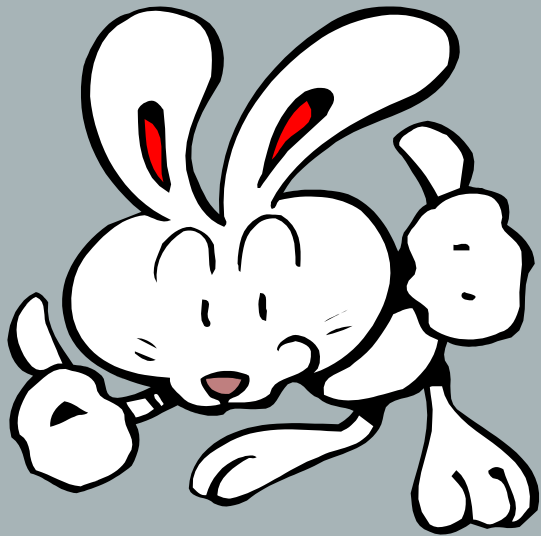
The Imperfect



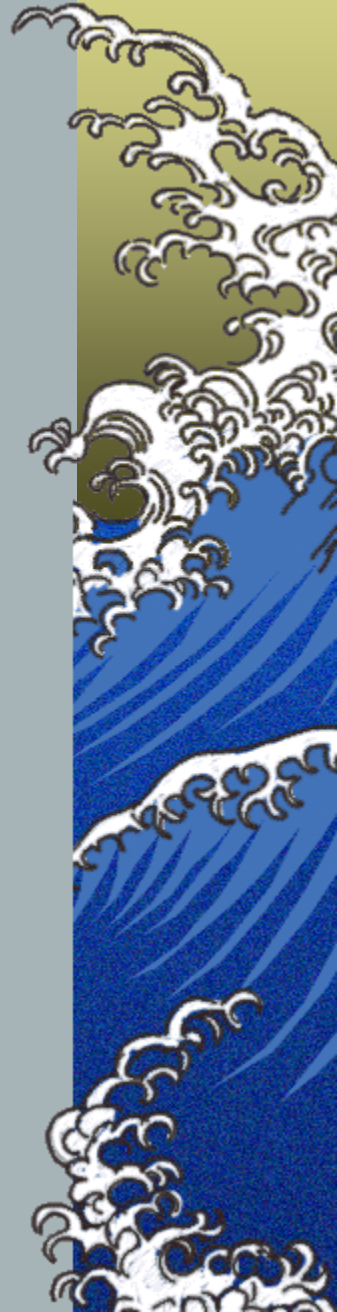
- ▲ In this presentation, we will look at another way of talking about the past.



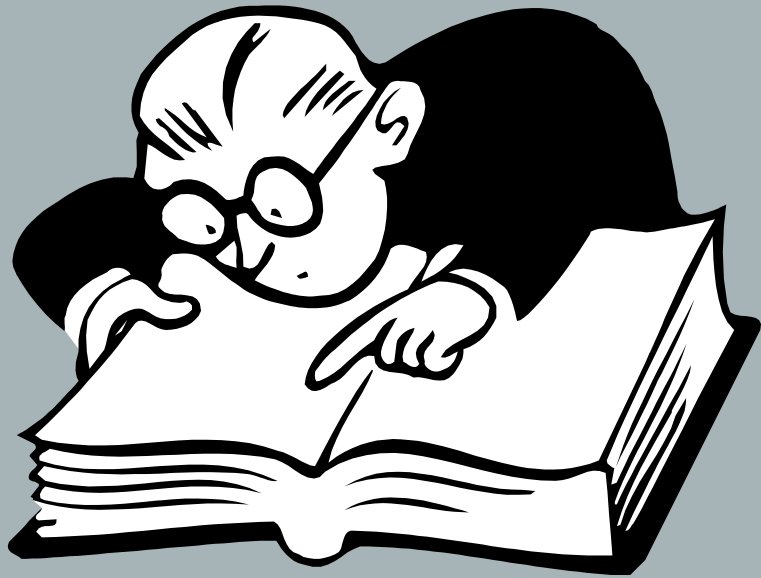
Remember this?



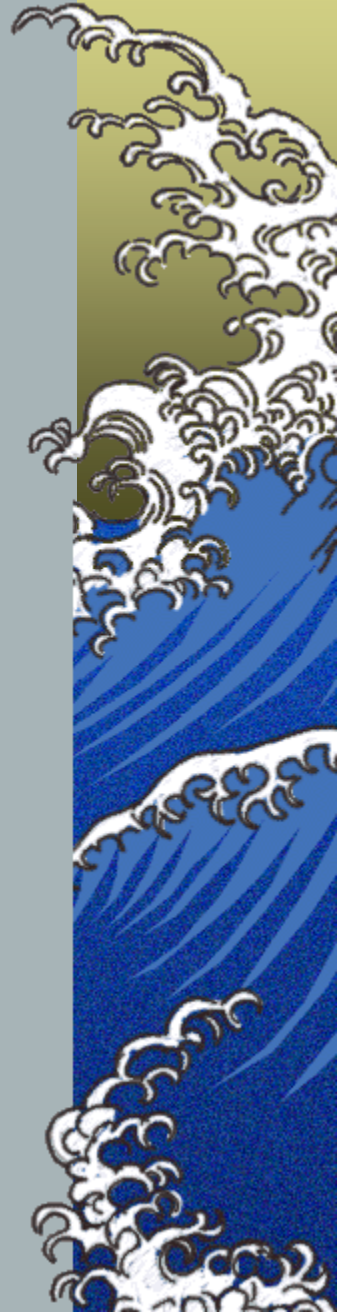
- ▶ We've already learned one way of talking about the past: **the preterite**. It's used to describe single actions that started and ended in the past.
- ▶ Examples:
 - ▶ Tomaron el examen el lunes pasado. Gabriela recibió la mejor nota de todos los estudiantes.
 - ▶ El año pasado, fui a Costa Rica de vacaciones. Lo pasé muy bien.
 - ▶ Pedro se levantó, fue al baño, y se duchó.



What about...?



- ▲ ... actions that happen more than once in the past?
 - ▲ I used to live in Peoria.
 - ▲ Every Christmas the whole family would get together for a big dinner.

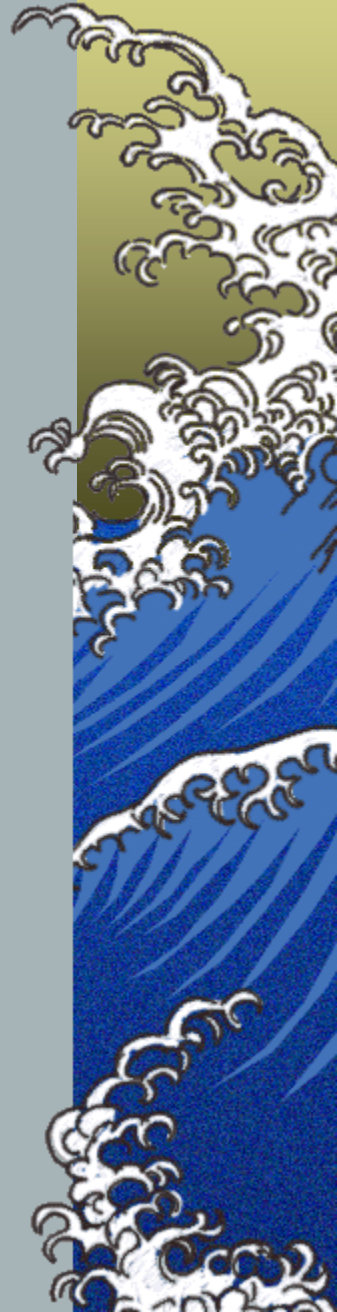


Or how about...?



... actions that started in the past but didn't finish (as far as we know):

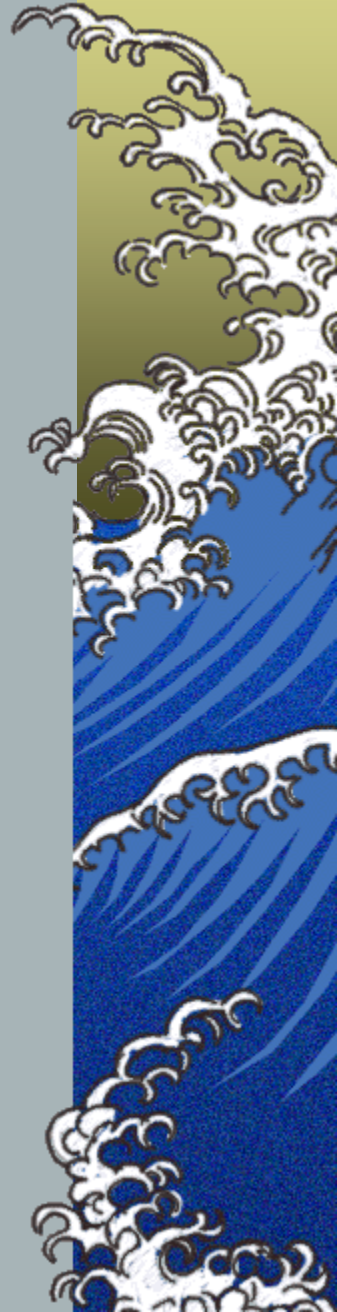
- ▶ I was walking to work when I saw an accident.
- ▶ She was tired and hungry.



The imperfect



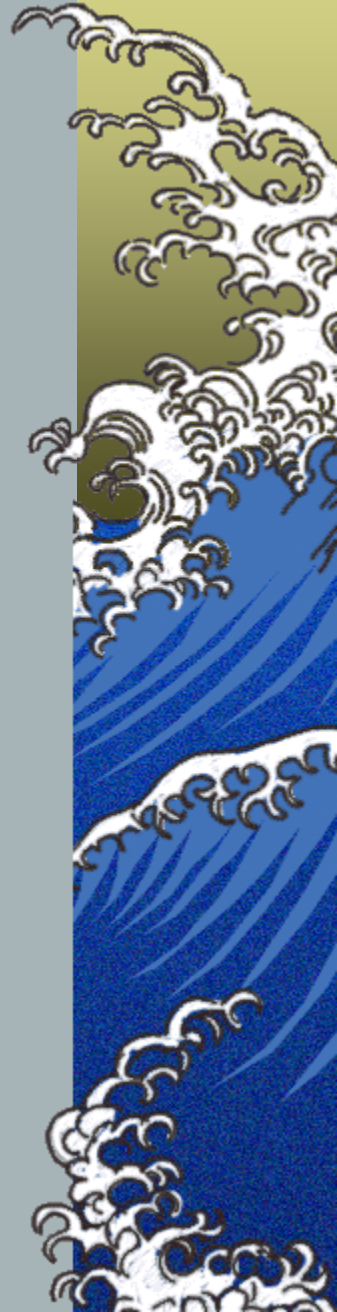
- ▶ These ideas –
 - ▶ actions repeated in the past
 - ▶ unfinished actions in the past
 - ▶ descriptions about the past
- ▶ are expressed using a different verb tense, called the “imperfect.”
 - ▶ Think about it: “perfect” means “complete,” so when a past action is **incomplete**, it is “imperfect.”



Uses of the imperfect



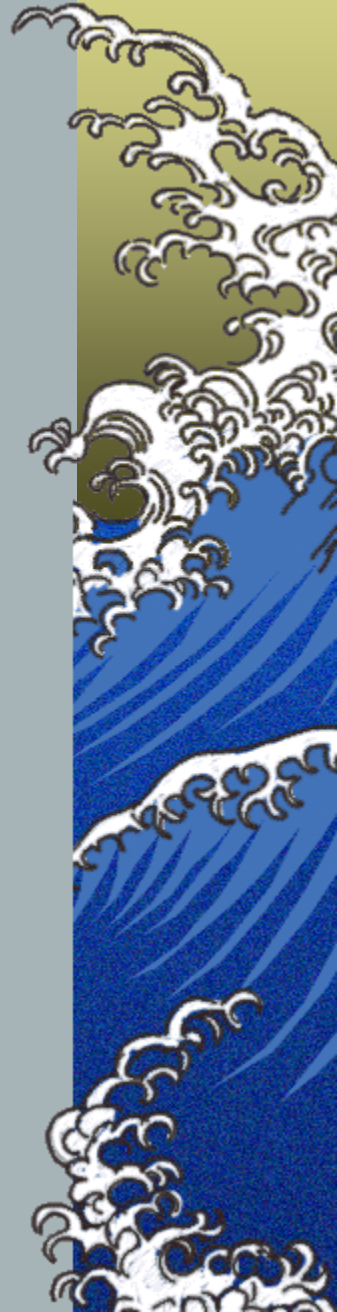
- ▲ Use the imperfect to express actions, conditions, and events that:
 - ▲ were in progress at some time in the past (“was ...ing”).
 - ▲ occurred repeatedly in the past (“used to” or “would”).
 - ▲ were anticipated or planned (“was going to”).



OK, what are the forms?



- ▶ **Finally!** The imperfect tense is probably the easiest form to learn because there are only three irregulars.
- ▶ There are **two** sets of endings...
 - ▶ **-AR:** add **-aba** to the base
 - ▶ **ER/IR:** add **-ía** to the base



Some examples, please!



hablar

hablaba

hablabas

hablaba

hablábamos

hablaban

cantar

cantaba

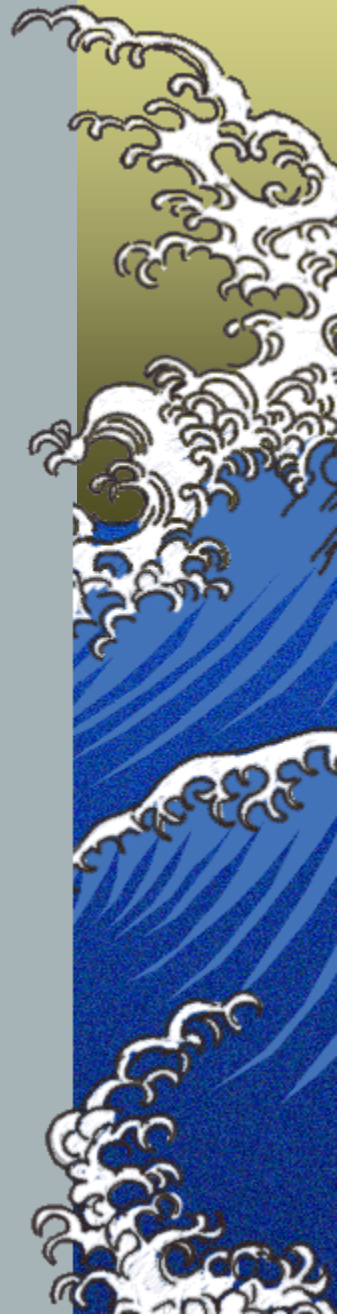
cantabas

cantaba

cantábamos

cantaban

- ▶ *Easy, huh? Just add the -s to make the the **tú** form, -mos for **nosotros**, and -n for **ellos/ellas**.*
- ▶ *Don't forget the accent on the **nosotros** form!*



How about for –ER & -IR?



comer

comía

comías

comía

comíamos

comían

vivir

vivía

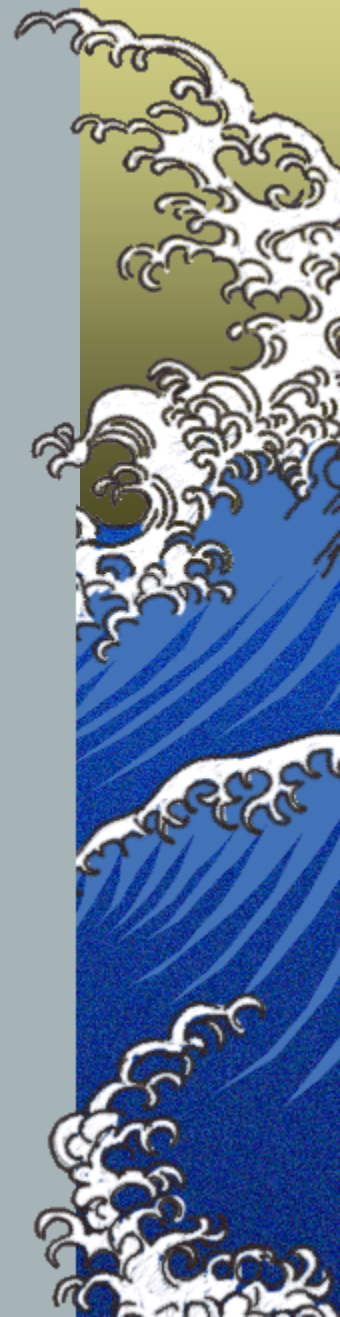
vivías

vivía

vivíamos

vivían

- ▶ Same way... just add the –s to make the *tú* form, –mos for *nosotros*, and –n for *ellos/ellas*.
- ▶ Don't forget the accent on all the forms!



Let's try a few forms!



▲ **Estar:**

▲ yo _____

▲ tú _____

▲ ella _____

▲ nosotros _____

▲ ellos _____

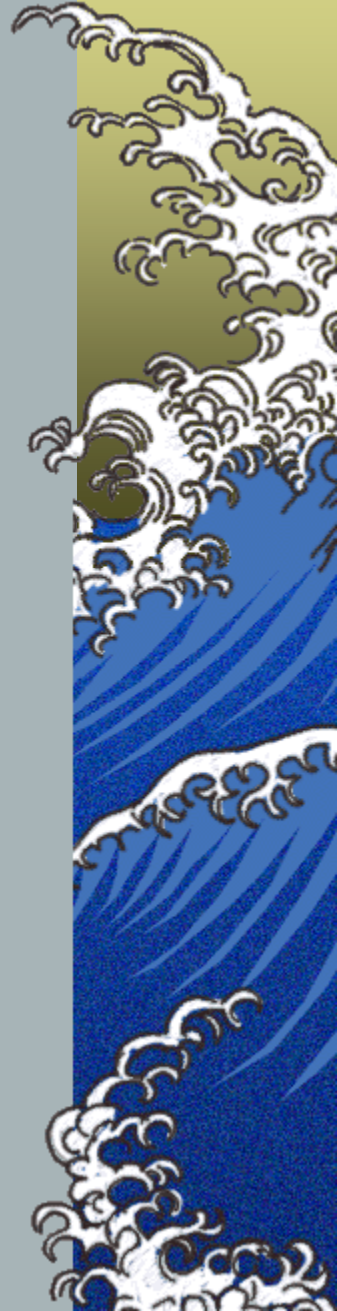


Estar...

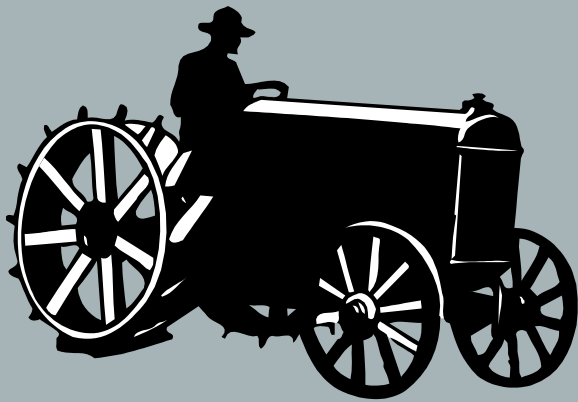


- ▶ yo estaba
- ▶ tú estabas
- ▶ ella estaba
- ▶ nosotros estábamos
- ▶ ellos estaban

- ▶ How about **volver**?



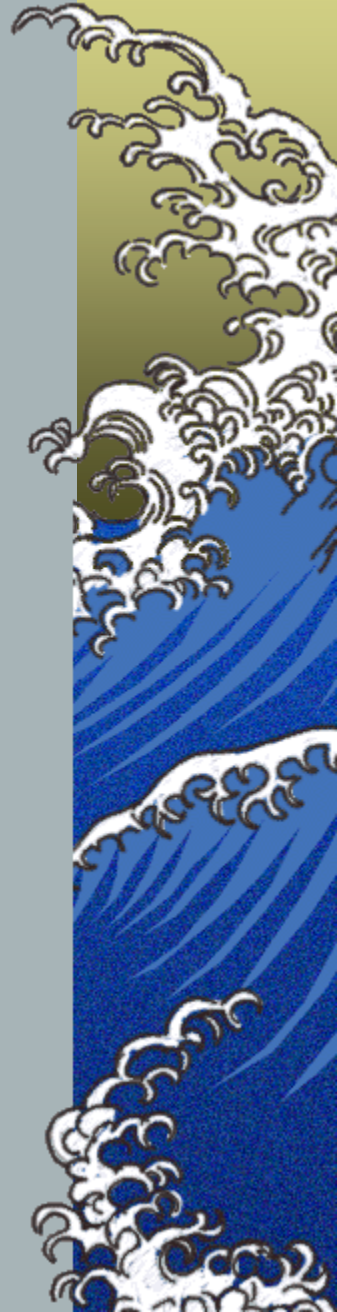
Volver...



- ▶ yo volvía
- ▶ tú volvías
- ▶ ella volvía
- ▶ nosotros volvíamos
- ▶ ellos volvían

- ▶ **Volver** is a stem-changing verb in the present, but stem-changing verbs don't change in the imperfect!

- ▶ How about **conocer**?

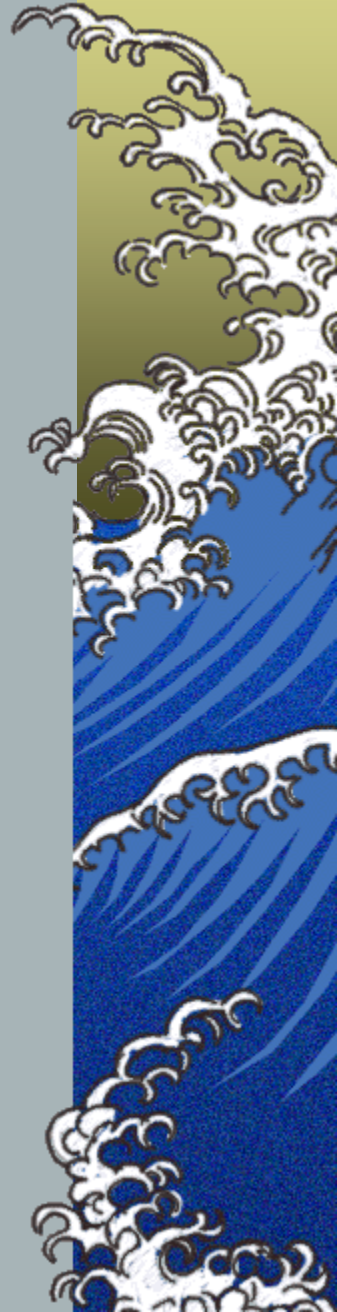


Conocer...



- ▶ yo conocía
- ▶ tú conocías
- ▶ ella conocía
- ▶ nosotros conocíamos
- ▶ ellos conocían

- ▶ **Conocer** is irregular in the present, but not in the imperfect!
- ▶ How about **decir**?



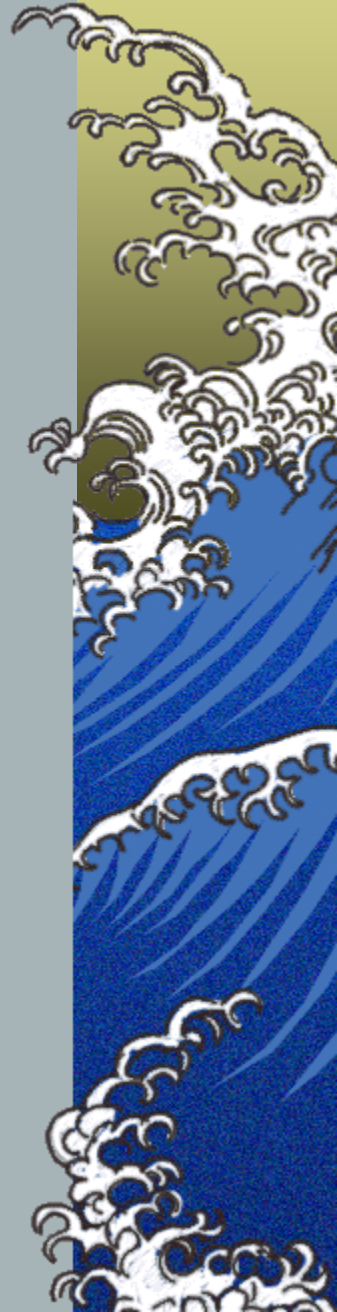
Decir...



- ▶ yo decía
- ▶ tú decías
- ▶ ella decía
- ▶ nosotros decíamos
- ▶ ellos decían

- ▶ **Decir** is stem-changing and irregular in both the present and the preterite, but it's **regular** in the imperfect!

- ▶ How about levantarse?



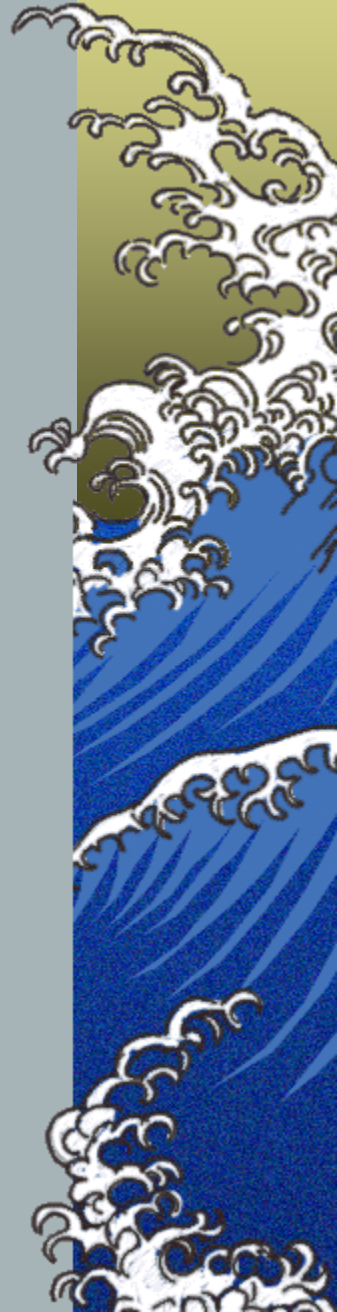
Levantarse...



- ▶ yo me levantaba
- ▶ tú te levantabas
- ▶ ella se levantaba
- ▶ nosotros nos levantábamos
- ▶ ellos se levantaban

- ▶ Reflexive verbs work the same as in the present – don't forget to put the reflexive pronoun in front of the verb!

- ▶ How about those three irregulars?



Ser, ir, ver

★ ser

★ era

★ eras

★ era

★ éramos

★ eran

ir

iba

ibas

iba

íbamos

iban

ver

veía

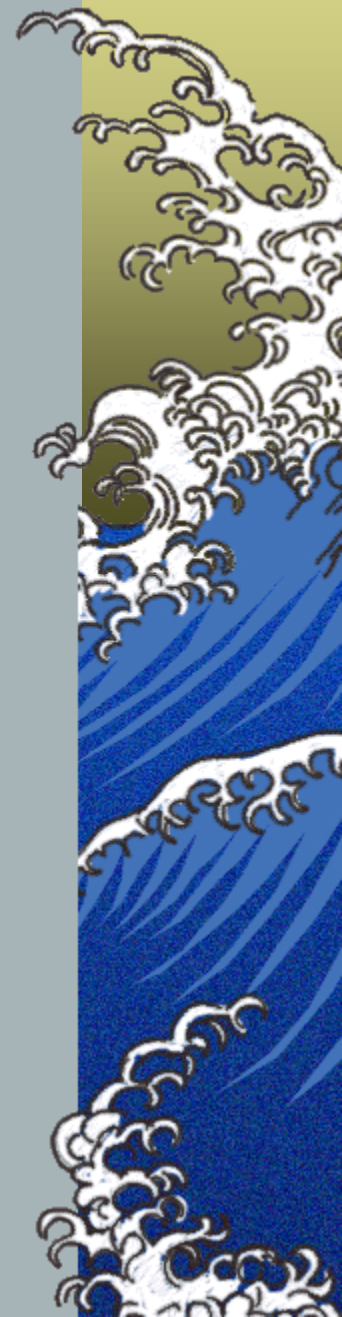
veías

veía

veíamos

veían

★ That's all, folks – no other irregular imperfect forms in Spanish.



A piece of cake!



- ▶ The forms are that simple!
- ▶ We'll look at the differences between the two past forms – the preterite and the imperfect – in a later slide show.

